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ORIGIN ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

OMB-01 TAR-02 AGR-20 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06

OIC-04 SIL-01 STR-08 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 CEA-02 SCI-06

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E. O. 11652: DECLASSIFY 3/16/74

TAGS: ECLA, XM

SUBJECT; ECLA' S 25 TH ANNIVERSARY MEETING

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED:

1. ECLA (UN ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA) WILL
HOLD ITS BIENNIAL MEETING IN QUITO MARCH 23 TO 30, ALSO
CELEBRATING ECLA' S 25 TH ANNIVERSARY. THE OPENING
SESSION IS EXPECTED TO BE ATTENDED BY MANY INTERNA-
TIONAL DIGNITARIES, INCLUDING THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL,
THE IMF MANAGING DIRECTOR, THE OAS SECRETARY GENERAL,
AND OTHERS. ENRIQUE IGLESIAS WILL PRESENT A REPORT ON
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HIS FIRST YEAR AS ECLA' S EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AND HIS PLANS FOR THE FUTURE OF THE ORGANIZATION. THE MEETING IS ALSO EXPECTED TO PAY SPECIAL RESPECT TO RAUL PREBISCH, THE LEADING ECLA AND UNCTAD THEORETICIAN AND POLICYMAKER.

2. THE U. S. DELEGATION WILL BE LED BY U. S. AMBASSADOR O ECOSOC, BERNARD ZAGORIN, WITH USOAS AMBASSADOR DOUGLAS HENDERSON AS ALTERNATE.

3. THE PRINCIPAL AGENDA ITEM WILL BE THE REVIEW AND APPRAISAL REPORT PREPARED BY THE ECLA SECRETARIAT ON THE PROGRESS OF LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES DURING 1971-72 TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE OBJECTIVES OF THE UN' S SECOND

DEVELOPMENT DECADE. (THE REPORT WILL BE PRELIMINARILY CONSIDERED AT A TECHNICAL- LEVEL MEETING BEGINNING MARCH 20.) ALSO ON THE AGENDA ARE ADDITIONAL ITEMS SUCH AS LATIN AMERICA' S PARTICIPATION IN THE FORTH-COMING WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE; ECLA' S ACTIVITIES IN CONNECTION WITH THE ENVIRONMENT; APPLICATION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TO DEVELOPMENT; AND THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THE MEETING WILL ALSO REVIEW ECLA' S SUGGESTED WORK PROGRAM FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS.

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4. COMMENT: PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT BY DEPARTMENT OF ECLA' S REVIEW AND APPRAISAL REPORT OF LA PROGRESS DURING THE SECOND DEVELOPMENT DECADE REVEALS SUBSTANTIAL SECTIONS WITH WHICH WE AGREE IN GENERAL, OR AT LEAST DO NOT HAVE BASIC OBJECTIONS, SUCH AS REVIEWS OF INTERNAL LA ECONOMIC/ SOCIAL CONDITIONS STRESSING INTER- AND INTRA-COUNTRY DISPARITIES AND REPORT ON STATUS OF ECONOMIC INTEGRATION. WE DO HAVE PROBLEMS OF VARYING DEGREES WITH SOME SECTIONS OF THE REPORT, SUCH AS THOSE DEVOTED TO TRADE, EXTERNAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCING, AND DEBT, SOME OF WHICH ARE, WE BELIEVE, UNBALANCED, UNJUSTLY CRITICAL OF U. S. POLICIES, OR ENDORSE POSITIONS WE DO NOT ACCEPT.

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5. WE PLAN ON EMPHASIZING POSITIVE ELEMENTS IN U. S.-

LATIN AMERICAN RELATIONS SUCH AS 18 PER CENT INCREASE
IN LATIN AMERICAN EXPORTS TO THE U. S. IN 1972, AND
INCREASED LATIN AMERICAN FOREIGN EXCHANGE HOLDINGS.
WITHIN CONSTRAINTS IMPOSED BY CHANGED INTERNATIONAL
ECONOMIC RELATIONS, WE BELIEVE THE U. S. HAS GOOD BRIEF
FOR OUR RECENT ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH LATIN AMERICA.
WE ARE NOT SEEKING CONFRONTATIONS, BUT WHERE DISAGREE-
MENTS EXIST, WE PLAN TO STATE OUR POSITION CLEARLY.

6. THIS MEETING IS BEING HELD DURING A PERIOD IN WHICH
U. S.- LA RELATIONS ARE UNDERGOING CRITICAL REVIEW IN
MANY FORUMS, E. G., THE JANUARY IA- ECOSOC MEETING IN
BOGOTA, THE CURRENT UN SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING IN
PANAMA, AND THE APRIL OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN WASHINGTON.
IT IS LIKELY THAT SOME OF THE SAME CRITICISMS THAT HAVE
BEEN EXPRESSED IN OTHER FORUMS OF U. S. POLICIES WILL BE
REPEATED AT QUITO. WE ARE HOPEFUL, HOWEVER, THAT, ON
BALANCE, THE MEETING WILL RESULT IN CONSTRUCTIVE
PROPOSALS FOR ECLA'S FUTURE WORK PROGRAM. END LIMITED
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